



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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**U.S. OBTAINS RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST MOUNT VERNON TAX  
PREPARER TO PREVENT HIM FROM PREPARING TAX RETURNS  
CLAIMING SLAVERY REPARATIONS TAX CREDIT**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that the United States had obtained a temporary restraining order in the Southern District of New York barring KEVIN HARDY, of Mount Vernon, New York, from preparing federal income tax returns for others. The restraining order immediately bars HARDY from violating the Internal Revenue laws and working as a tax preparer until a full hearing on the Government's request for a preliminary injunction can take place.

The Government's Complaint, also filed today, alleges that Hardy works as a tax preparer and has prepared an unknown number of false and fraudulent income tax returns which claim a completely fabricated tax credit based on African-Americans' alleged entitlement to reparations for, among other things, slavery, segregation, treatment as second-class citizens, or separate-but-equal laws. The Complaint further alleges that the Internal Revenue Code does not provide any such slavery

reparations tax credit, and that Hardy repeatedly prepared federal income tax returns claiming this fraudulent credit, despite the fact that he knew that the credit has no basis in law, was based on completely fabricated information, and that he was willfully understating the tax liability of other persons.

"Today's Complaint and restraining order are part of the Department of Justice's nationwide effort to prevent preparers of fraudulent income tax returns from defrauding the public," said Mr. KELLEY. "Individuals who submit returns claiming non-existent tax credits for slavery reparations risk penalties and tax-return preparers who prepare such returns risk prosecution."

The Justice Department has filed numerous lawsuits seeking injunctions against return preparers who prepare false or fraudulent federal tax returns. More information about these cases is available at the website of the Justice Department's Tax Division, which has brought many of the lawsuits, at <http://www.usdoj.gov/tax/taxpress2004.htm>, <http://www.usdoj.gov/tax/taxpress2005.htm>, and <http://www.usdoj.gov/tax/index.html>.

Assistant United States Attorney ROSS E. MORRISON is in charge of the case.